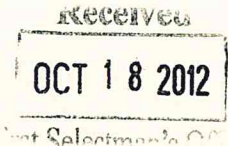




"All We Want Is Make Us Free"  
Sengbe Pieh (Joseph Cinque)  
City Hall of New Haven  
Dedicated September 26, 1992

## *The Amistad Committee, Inc.*

October 15, 2012



To the Honorable Mayor/First Selectman;

This is the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the historic Emancipation Proclamation, September 22, 1862. The Proclamation went into effect on January 1, 1863.

The Proclamation was a milestone in the long struggle for equality and justice in our country. While not complete, it opened the doors for victory against slavery. Almost 200, 000 Black soldiers joined the Union Army signaling victory on the battlefield. It defined the Civil War as a war against slavery as well as for the unity of the nation. It opened the door for the essential amendments to the Constitution guaranteeing citizenship for all.

To commemorate this history; to use this occasion to remind us of the long and continuing struggle for an equal and just society, we call upon all municipalities and institutions to ring their bells for one minute at NOON on JANUARY 1, 2013. We are requesting municipal offices to reach out to all institutions to participate.

We would encourage outreach to the citizenry with a public message.

On behalf of the State of Connecticut Freedom Trail

Alfred L. Marder  
Chairman

On behalf of the Office of Secretary Of State

Denise Merrill

